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## C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

eventually stick to their jobs. There is a constant move from coal-mining to other branches of industry.

Shortage of labor persists in coal-mining, and it is thought by people knowing the conditions that it will prevail as long as these conditions remain at the present level. The work in coal-mining is one of the hardest industrial jobs in any country, and even more so in Poland with the insistence of the managers on the over-reaching of production targets. Also, in many mines the standard of equipment and of safety arrangements is still very bad, although in some there is a marked improvement of standards. But above all, young men joining coal-mining are disappointed in the conditions of life and pay which are in a sharp contrast to what they are being promised by the recruiting officials. On entering the mines, they do not get near the promised amount of one thousand zlotys a month. Their earnings at the start of work range between 500 and 600 zlotys a month. Further increases depend on the output of the workers, and a very long time elapses before the new miner is skilled enough to earn one thousand zlotys. The food in mine canteens is undoubtedly cheap, but on the other hand there are constant complaints from the miners that it is very badly prepared and quite insufficient for their sustenance. As to accommodation conditions, these vary greatly. There are comparatively well-run, well-equipped and clean hotels, and are even able to offer to married workers small independent flats in newly built workers' settlements. In some places, however, single workers are lodged in barracks where they sleep 30-40 in one room. At the beginning of 1956, in as many as 200 miners' hotels in Poland, the water installatin was laid but not connected with the main water supply system, so that the supply of water depends on the rain filling the water-tank of the hotel. In many hotels the miners are forced to use the old-fashioned type of "outdoor sanitation" because the management still waits for lavatory equipment to be installed in the rooms destined for this purpose. In many hotels where all necessary installations exist in a working order, hot water is available only for about half-an-hour to an hour. As the miners are more than most other workers in need of such installations as well-functioning showers, baths and wash-basins, these shortcomings exasperate them. These are the reasons why newly recruited workers only rarely strike roots in the coal-mining industry. They get very easily discouraged and seek better conditions.

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